

DRAFT

Richmond Tri-Cities Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes January 16, 2007

Hosted by: Beetween The T's

Location: St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Petersburg, VA

Committee Members present: Sebastian Symeoides, Christian Bennett, Tarah Comer, Otis Lockhart, and Lynn Robinson

Affiliates present: Changing Fazes; Family Transitions, Inc.; Renewance Services, LLC; Faith Partners; Safe Haven, Inc.; Westlake Residential; Youth Pathways; Beetween the T's; Edgewood Group Family Services; Life Construction; Hope, Unity & Freedom; Open Arms Family Services; Taylor's Enhanced Living; Transitional Adult Residential; Wilkerson's Consulting; Community Connections; Faith & Family Advocates; Good Neighbor Homes; Isaiah's House; and Family Impact

Affiliates absent: Lumzy's Together Adult Services; Halo, Inc.; Mercy-N-Grace Residential; and Substance Abuse Consulting Services

Others present: Jim Bowser, Regional Advocate

I. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Sebastian Symeonides at 6:12 pm.

II. Introductions

Members and affiliates gave introductions, providing program name and name of representative(s).

III. Public Comment

- A. Mr. Bowser reported that an opportunity to for public comment to be heard would be included in every meeting. This section of time in the agenda will give opportunity for anyone to comment on any public issues pertaining to human rights. The committee will uphold restrictions on time to no longer than three minutes per person.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- A. The minutes from the November 21, 2006 meeting were circulated. One correction was offered to the minutes.
 - 1. Correct the spelling of 'Between the T's' to Beetween the T's.
- B. A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes with the above correction.

V. Meeting Host Schedule

- A. A temporary meeting host schedule was identified while the permanent rotating list is being worked on
 - 1. Good Neighbor Homes will host March meeting
 - 2. Life Construction will host May meeting
- B. Mr. Redd asked all affiliates and committee members meet with him prior to leaving the meeting in order to directly correct any address changes and to finalize the rotating host schedule.
- C. Mr. Bowser discussed his great concern of the number of absences of affiliates at recent meetings. He suggested that a change in language be considered to include that affiliates attend ALL meetings. Mr. Bowser reminded the affiliates that their signature on affiliation binds them to the responsibility of attending all meetings. He reminded affiliates that the penalty to non-compliance of attendance at meetings may result in termination or suspension from the Local Human Rights Committee. This will result in notification in writing that will be copied to the office of licensing. Mr. Bowser stressed that when one is not in compliance with the LHRC, one is not in compliance with licensing. Mr. Bowser restated that this is a violation on their affiliation agreement.

VI. LHRC Policies and Procedures Review

- A. Franco Britt presented on behalf of Family Transitions, Inc. in order to review policies and procedures for their new day treatment program. The program targets youth ages 5-13. Services will be provided in the school during the school day and at another site in an after-school program setting from 2:00-8:30pm. Services will be geared to work with children in the least restrictive setting providing behavioral modification, case management, and individual and group therapy. Client rights are discussed during the intake process and are reviewed with the client yearly. Day Treatment services will involve the entire family as service plans are completed with the client and family. Discharge will be recommended as clients master 80% of their goals. Every six months, staff will discuss with clients the complaint reporting procedures. Time-out will not be utilized in the program. Day Treatment Staff are trained in MANDT and restraint will be utilized only as a last resort. Services have begun at Fairfield Elementary and George Mason Elementary. Each site has begun with five clients. Communities In Schools, Inc. and Richmond Public Schools staff will be the agency's primary means of referral.
- B. A motion was made and passed to approve the human rights policies and procedures of Family Transitions Day Treatment Program.

VII. Next Meeting Schedule

- A. The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2006. Good Neighbor Homes will host the next meeting. Affiliates will be notified of details of the next meeting by mail.

VIII. Human Rights Activities Reporting

- A. Prior to the Human Rights Activities Reporting, Mr. Bowser circulated an updated reporting form to begin to be utilized by affiliates for the next reporting period. A change has been made under Section II of the reporting form to include a space for the total number of allegations.
- B. The following affiliates reported their activities: Changing Fazes; Family Transitions, Inc.; Renewance Services, LLC; Faith Partners; Safe Haven, Inc.; Westlake Residential; Youth Pathways; Beetween the T's; Edgewood Group Family Services; Life Construction; Hope, Unity & Freedom; Open Arms Family Services; Taylor's Enhanced Living*; Transitional Adult Residential*(at this time the November 21 reporting was also given due to absence at last meeting); Wilkerson's Consulting; Community Connections; Faith & Family Advocates; Good Neighbor Homes*; Isaiah's House; and Family Impact.
- C. During the reporting, three agencies made requests for affiliation of another location (*)
 - 1. A motion was made and passed to accept affiliation for a second location of Taylor's Enhanced Living.
 - 2. A motion was made and passed to accept affiliation for a second location of Transitional Adult Residential.
 - 3. A motion was made and passed to accept affiliation for a third location of Good Neighbor Homes.
- D. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the above listed Human Rights Activities Reporting.

IX. Meeting Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm by Sebastian Symeonides.